

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1, 3-5, 16 and 17 remain in the application.

Claim 5 was allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance stated per the Office Action.

Claim 2 was previously cancelled.

Claims 6-15 were previously withdrawn, without prejudice, as a non-elected group of claims, reserved for prosecution in a divisional application.

1. Claim 3 was objected to. Claim 3 is hereby amended to have proper dependence on claim 1.

2. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Brock. Brock discloses only a central head portion that, via attached hinged side portions that swing up or down, provides extension of the cleaning element to finite width and only by the up and down swing movement of the side portions.

Applicant's amended claim 1 provide that the generally linear cleaning surface of the head extends and contracts linearly from ends/extents of the head, in order to extend and contract the linear cleaning surface at the extents of the head from the centrally connected handle to the head.

4. Claims 1, 3, 4, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Bailey. Bailey discloses only a generally V-shaped arrangement of dual bristle heads, where the dual heads can be manipulated to obtain a greater or less distance between the heads at the V-shape (i.e., upper part of the V-shape, but the forward end of the Bailey system). Bailey can not provide any generally linear extension/contraction of the cleaning surface throughout a range from fully extended to fully contracted. In

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fact, each of the dual bristle heads of Bailey provide the same length of cleaning surface, i.e., the length of each of the dual heads – notwithstanding the extent of the distance between heads of the V-shape. Solely the *angle at which the heads are passed over* a surface during cleaning is changeable.

Applicant's amended claim provide that the generally linear cleaning surface of the head extends and contracts linearly from ends/extents of the head, in order to extend and contract the linear cleaning surface at the extents of the head from the centrally connected handle to the head.

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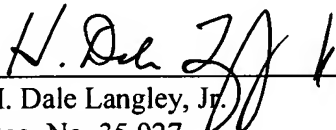
Applicant thanks the examiner for the allowance of claim 5, as stated in the Office Action.

Reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of all other pending claims is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, the undersigned attorney for Applicant respectfully requests a call to discuss any issues. The Office is authorized to charge any excess fees or to credit any overage to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 13, 2006

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